Public Notice

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
St. Louis District
Gateway to Excellence

Reply To:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CEMVS-OD-F
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2833

Public Notice No.
P-2654
Public Notice Date
December 4, 2007
Expiration Date
December 25, 2007

Postmaster Please Post Conspicuously Until:

Comments on the activities described below should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice number shown above and must reach this office no later than the above expiration date of the Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: CEMVS-OD-F (Charles Frerker)
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

1. Dr. Dale Chapman, representing the Lewis and Clark Community College, 5800 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, Illinois 62035, (618) 468-3411, in partnership with the University of Illinois and the Illinois Natural History Survey, have applied:

a. To the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District Regulatory Branch for authorization under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to construct a facility known as the Lewis and Clark Community College, National Great Rivers Research and Education Field Station. The facility would be located on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property, near the Melvin Price Lock and Dam. The proposed facility is to function as a field station and laboratory for studying the ecosystem of the confluence of the Illinois, Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. The approximate 30,000 square foot facility would house laboratories, classrooms, offices and support spaces. The building has been designed to co-exist with the natural surroundings. The cave like facility would have a grass roof with exterior walls constructed of local stone to emulate the surrounding bluffs in the Alton area. The project has been designed on guidelines from the U.S. Green Building Council – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The facility would be constructed with renewable energy equipped features such as two wind turbines, solar hot water, natural daylighting and possibly hydrokinetic power in the future. Besides the main building, a boat ramp, parking areas and a river intake pump station and discharge pipe to feed an aquatic raceway system for various research projects is proposed. Clearing and construction requirements for the proposed boat ramp, including the associated parking lot and access road, would impact approximately one acre of wooded wetlands. A bulldozer would be used to clear the area. All excavated materials would be removed from the site and would not further impact the wetland or riparian area adjacent to the river. The proposed boat ramp would be approximately 15-feet-wide by 145-feet-long and would be constructed down to an elevation of 394 NGVD. This is approximately three feet below normal low water 397 NGVD. The boat ramp would be installed by two different methods. The lower 32-feet would be pre-cast panels while the remaining 313 feet would be constructed by cast-in-place methods. Three sides of the boat ramp would be protected with a six-foot-high by six-foot-wide class C sized stone. Clearing and construction associated with the proposed water discharge pipe and energy dissipater structure would impact approximately 0.08 acre of wooded wetlands. Of the 5.8 acres of wetlands within the project area, a total of 1.08 acres would be impacted by the above-mentioned activities. Besides the boat ramp and water discharge structure, the Mississippi River would additionally be affected by the proposed construction of a water intake pump station structure and two associated protective cells. The pump station would consist of a 10-foot-diameter steel casing with

two slide gates located between elevations 399 and 402.5 NGVD. The top of the steel casing would be constructed to approximate elevation 440 NGVD. The pump station would accommodate four submersible pumps. The pumps would be placed on a concrete pad located at approximate elevation 395 NGVD. The top of the steel casing would be closed with a concrete deck equipped with hatches and railings. The ¾-inch-thick steel casing would be driven to rock and/or refusal with a vibratory hammer. Approximately 20.5 cubic yards of river sediment would be excavated from within the steel casing to appropriately house the submersible pumps. The applicant proposes to open water discharge the excavated material back into the Mississippi River. A catwalk bridge structure would be installed from the top of the pump station casing towards the upper riverbank for maintenance and access purposes. Two six-foot-diameter, steel monopoles would be installed directly upstream and downstream of the proposed pump station intake structure to deflect debris and ice. The monopole structures would be filled with sand and a steel cap would be welded on top to seal the structures. The facility and attendant features are within close proximity to the lock chamber. The applicant would be required to coordinate proper lighting requirement with the U.S. Coast Guard for any structures in or near the river to avoid lighting distractions during evening navigation hours. The exterior of the main building and parking area would be illuminated with 400-watt metal halide cutoff style shoebox luminaries mounted on 25 high poles. The project area is located in the Southeast and Southwest ¼ of Section 19, Township 5 North, Range 9 West, along the left descending bank of the Mississippi River, immediately below the Melvin Price Lock and Dam, in Madison County, Illinois. (See Attached Figures)

b. To the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for water quality certification, or waiver thereof, for the proposed activity in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Certification or waiver indicates that IEPA believes the activity will not violate applicable water quality standards. The review by the IEPA is conducted in accordance with the Illinois water quality standards under 35 Illinois Administrative Code Subtitle C. The water quality standards provide for the IEPA to review individual projects by providing an antidegradation assessment, which includes an evaluation of alternatives to any proposed increase in pollutant loading that may result from this activity. The "Fact Sheet" containing the antidegradation assessment for this proposed project may be found on the IEPA's web site, at www.epa.state.il.us/public-notices/. In the event that the IEPA is unable to publish the "Fact Sheet" corresponding to the timeframe of this Joint Public Notice, a separate public notice and "Fact Sheet" will be published by the IEPA at the web site identified above. You may also obtain a copy of the "Fact Sheet" by contacting the IEPA at the address or telephone number shown below. Written comments specifically concerning possible impacts to water quality should be addressed to: Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Water, Watershed Management Section, 1021 N. Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers. (See paragraph 11 of this public notice for Corps address).

c. To the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources for state approval of the proposed work in accordance with "an Act in relation to the regulation of the rivers, lakes and streams of the State of Illinois" (Ill. Rev. Stat.; Chap. 19, par 52 et seq.). Written comments concerning possible impacts to waters of Illinois should be addressed to Mr. Mike Diedrichsen, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resource Way, Springfield, Illinois, 62702-1271, with copy provided to the Corps of Engineers.

2. Based on our initial processing of the applicants' proposal, the action is not expected to result in any significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment. However, a final determination of the need for an environmental impact statement will not be made until the St. Louis District has completed its full review of this application. The review will include our evaluation of any written responses received as a result of this public notice.

3. This permit will be processed under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

4. The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

5. The St. Louis District will evaluate information provided by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice and we may conduct, or require a reconnaissance survey of the project area.

6. The proposed project is within the range of the federally endangered Indiana Bat (***Myotis sodalis***) Gray bat **(Myotis gricescens)** and the Decurrent false aster **(Boltoniea decurrens)**. A preliminary determination, in compliance with the Endangered Species Act as amended, has been made that the proposed activities are not likely to adversely affect species designated as threatened or endangered, or adversely affect critical habitat. In order to complete our evaluation, this public notice solicits comments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

7. Any interested parties, particularly navigation interests, Federal and state agencies for the protection of environmental and cultural resources, and the officials of any state, town, or local associations whose interest may be affected by this work, are invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections on or before the public notice expiration date. The decision whether to authorize the proposed work will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Project authorization will be granted only if it is found not contrary to the public interest.

8. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny authorization for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

9. Any person may request that a public hearing be held to consider the applicant's proposal, provided such request identifies significant issues that would warrant additional public review and comment. All replies to this public notice must be submitted in writing and sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, 1222 Spruce Street, Attn: OD-F (Frerker), St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833, or by electronic mail to *charles.f.frerker@mvs02.usace.army.mil*, on or before **December 25, 2007**.

10. In accordance with 33 CFR 325.3, it is presumed that all interested parties and agencies will wish to respond to public notices; therefore, a lack of response will be interpreted as meaning that there is no objection to the proposed project.

Danny D. McClendon
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Attachments

NOTICE TO POSTMASTERS:

It is requested that this notice be conspicuously and continually posted for 21 days.

P-2654

National Great Rivers Research and Education Station

Nov 28, 2007

Made By: Charles Frerker

State: Illinois
County: Madison
Nearest City: East Alton
Latitude: 38:51:56.1187
(38.86558852)
Longitude: -90:08:22.9238
(-90.13970106)
USGS Quad: Columbia Bottom

HUC 8 Name: Peruque-piasa
HUC 8 Number: 07110009
Section: 19
Township: 5 N
Range: 9 W
Meridian: Third Principal

NCR FORM 426
08 AUG 02

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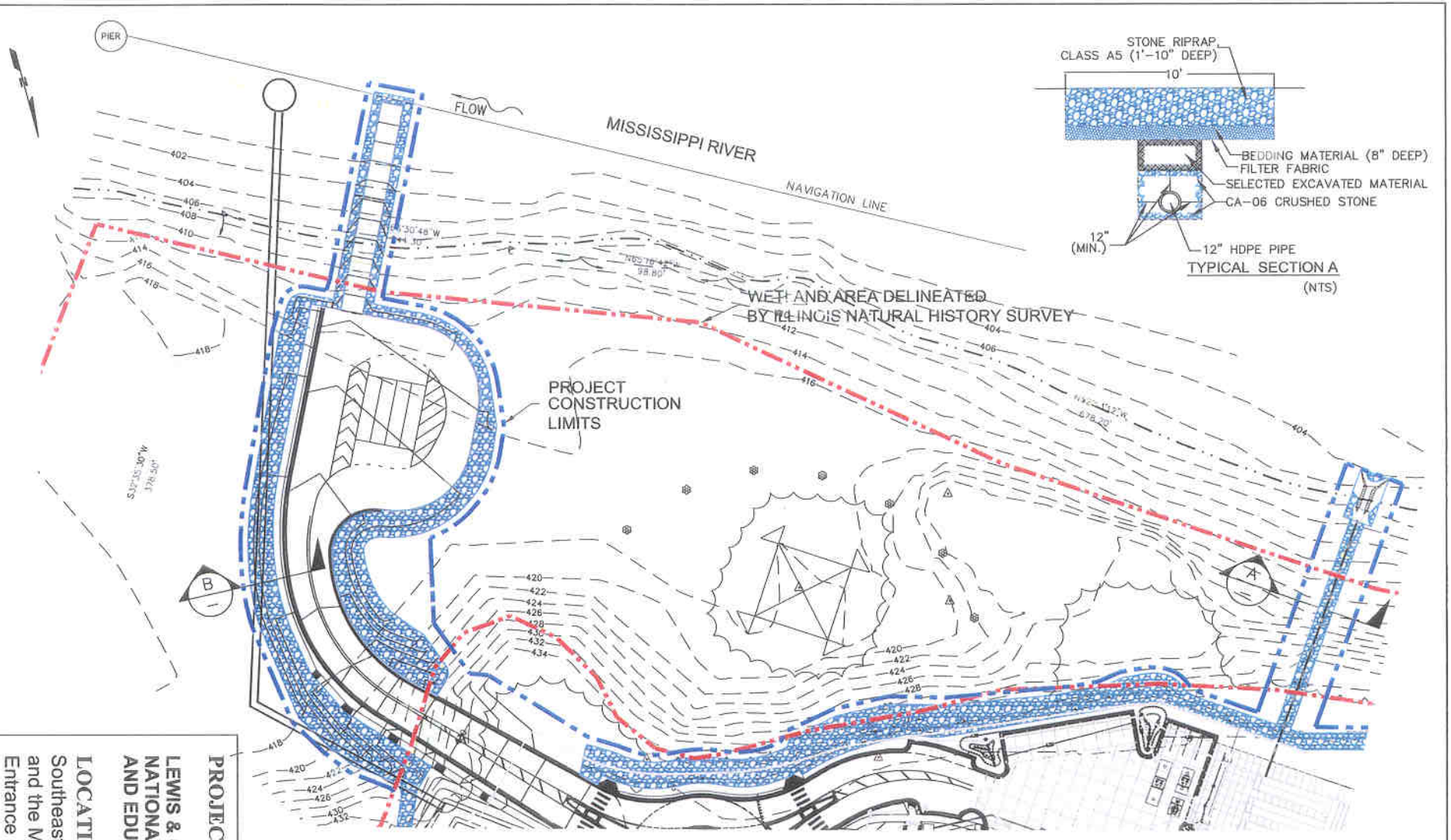
SHEET 10 OF 10



TYPICAL SECTION A
(NTS)

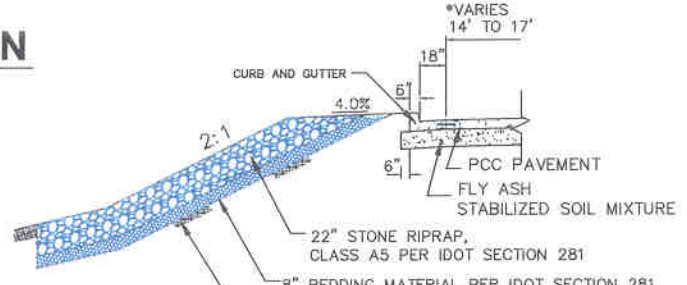
WETLAND DELINEATION SURVEY PLAN AND LIMITS OF CONSTRUCTION

SCALE: 1"=100'

SCALE: 1" = 100'
0' 100' 200'
SCALE IN FEET

LEGEND:

WETLAND AREA DELINEATION
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION LIMITS

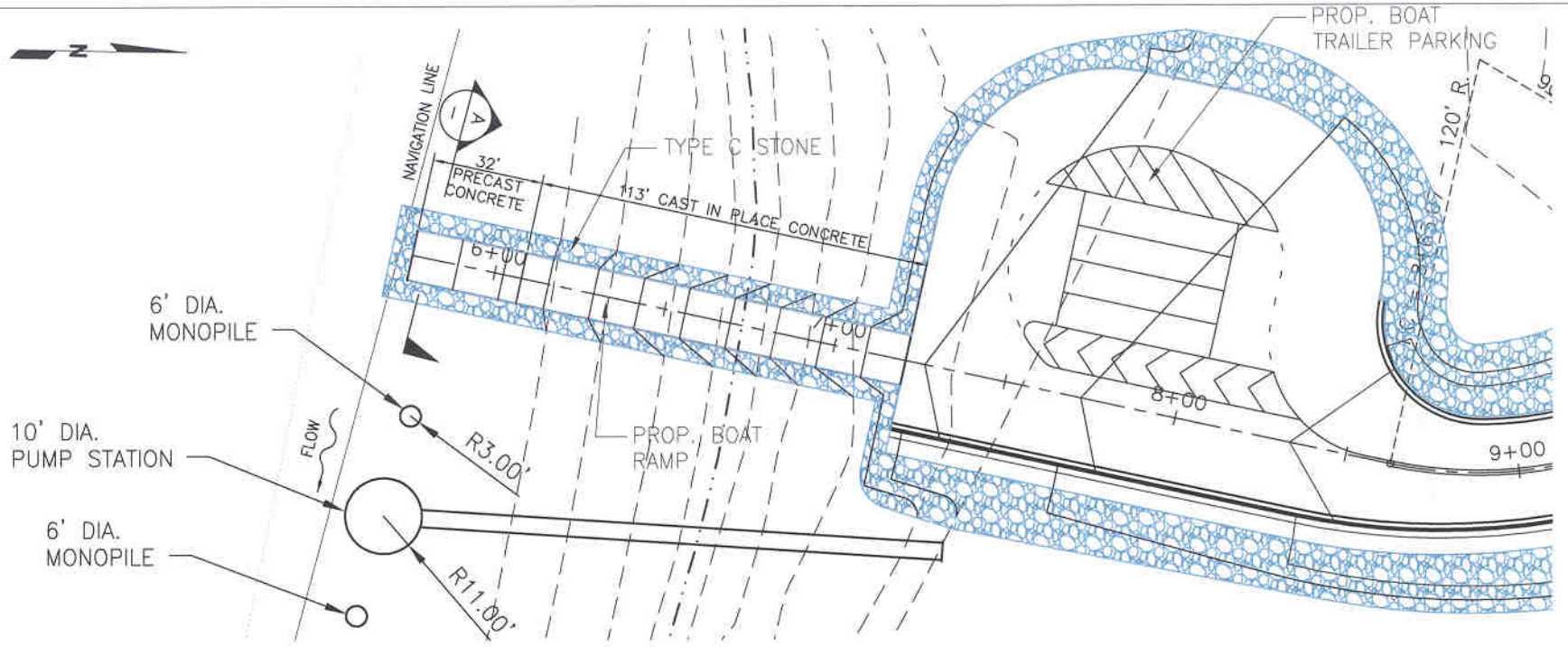


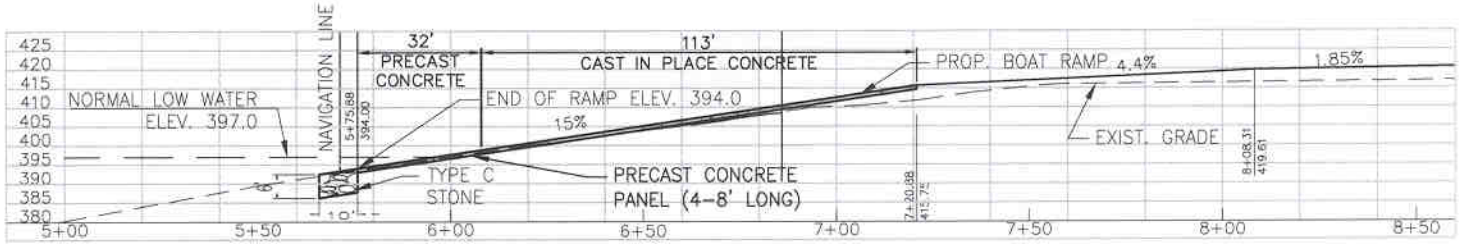
TYPICAL SECTION B
(NTS)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

LEWIS & CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FIELD STATION

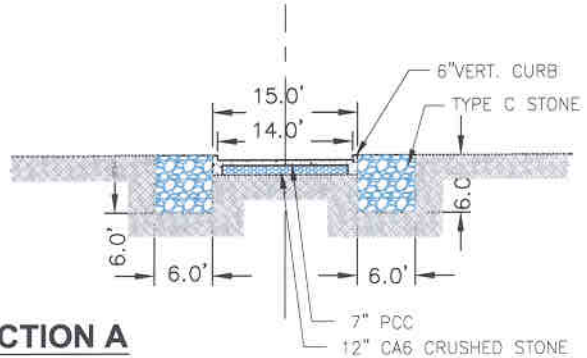
LOCATION:
Southeast of the intersection of IL 143 and the Melvin Price Lock & Dam Entrance Road





PROP. BOAT RAMP PLAN & PROFILE

SCALES: H. & V 1"=50'



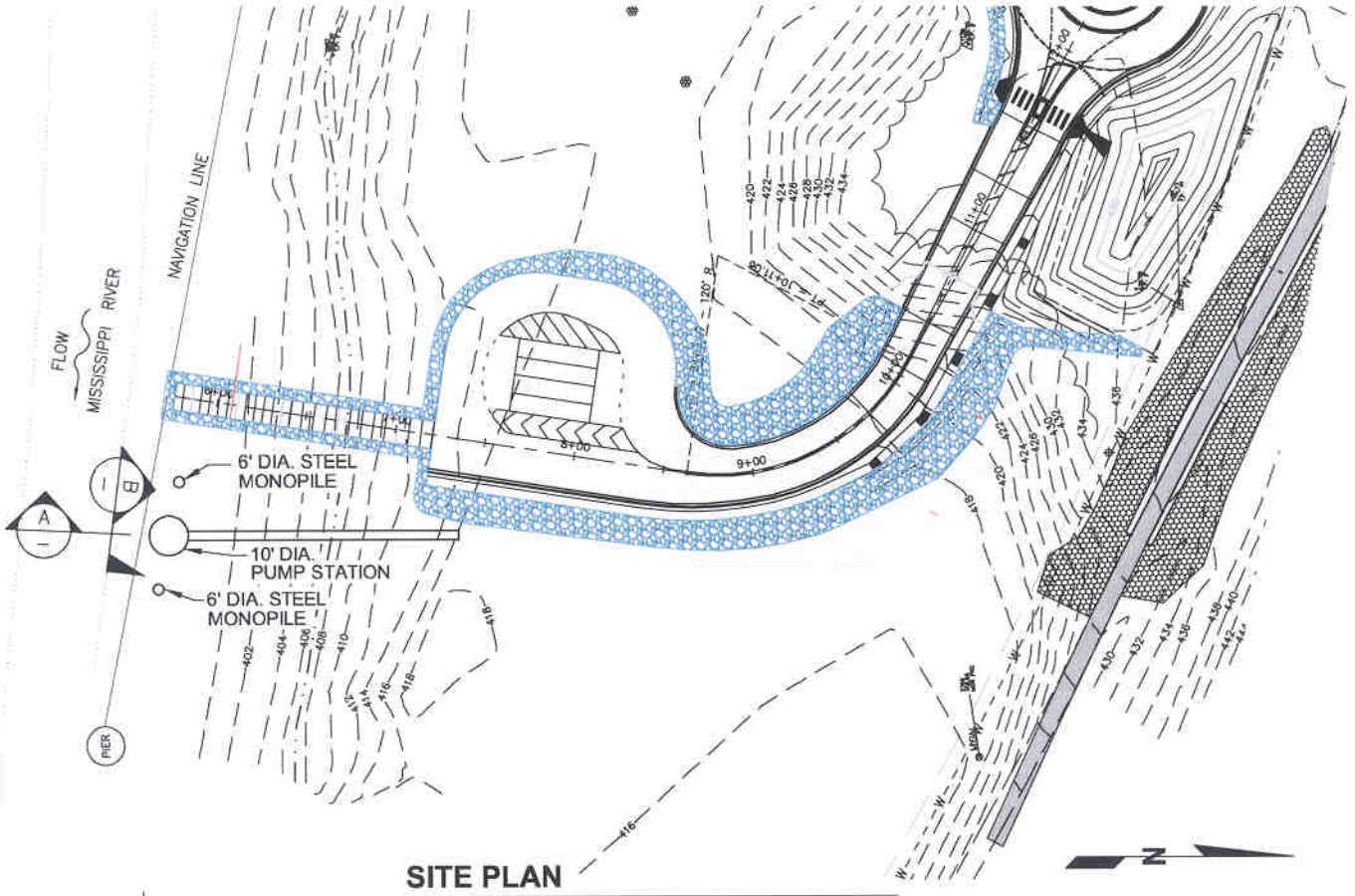
SECTION A

SCALE: 1"=20'

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

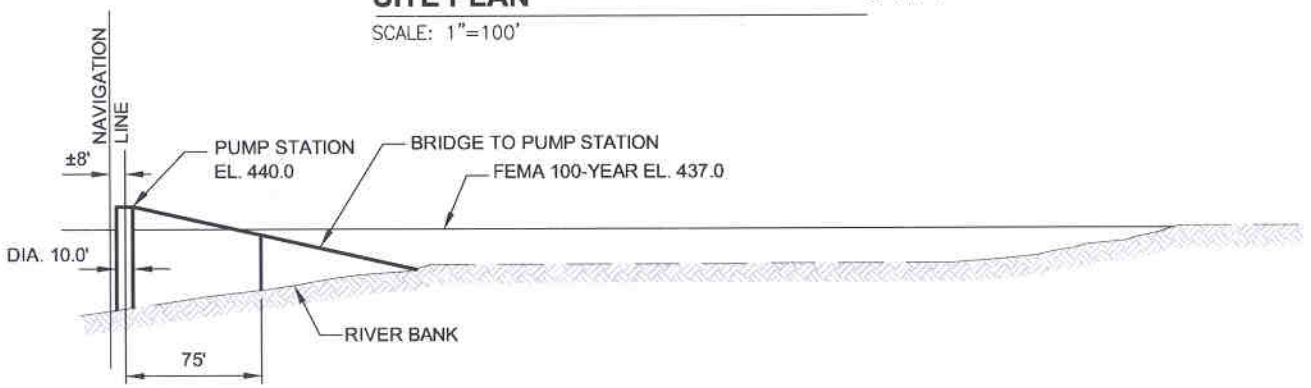
LEWIS & CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FIELD STATION

LOCATION:
Southeast of the intersection of IL 143 and the Melvin Price Lock & Dam Entrance Road



SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1"=100'



SECTION THROUGH PUMP STATION

SCALE: H&V 1"=100'

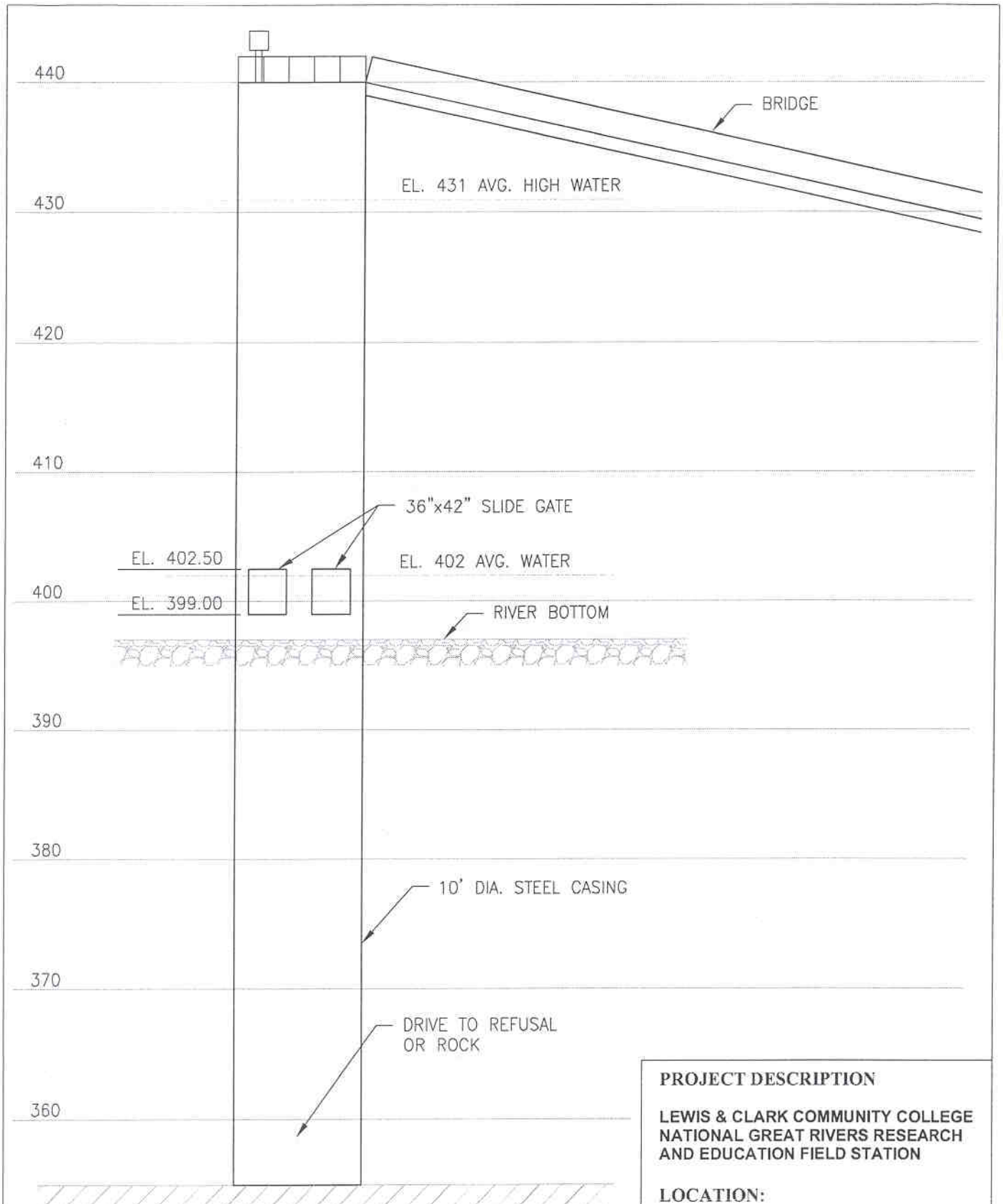
PROP. PUMP STATION

SCALE: 1"=100'

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

LEWIS & CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FIELD STATION

LOCATION:
Southeast of the intersection of IL 143 and the Melvin Price Lock & Dam Entrance Road



WATER INTAKE STRUCTURE

B / –

SCALE: 1"=10'-0"

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

LEWIS & CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL GREAT RIVERS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FIELD STATION

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